COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Navy Reorganization Plan Approved by SecDef

A proposal to reorganize the Department of the Navy has been approved by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

Proposed by Secretary of the Navy Paul H. Nitze, the reorganization ". . . will increase the breadth of authority and responsibility of the Chief of Naval Operations under the continuing direction of the Secretary of the Navy and will strengthen the management of the Navy's material support organization."

Principal elements of the plan will place Navy's material, medical and dental personnel supporting organizations under command of CNO; reconstitute Naval Material Support Establishment as Naval Material Command; and restructure components of the new command into six functional commands: Systems for Air, Ship, Electronic, Ordnance and Supply, and Facilities Engineering Command.

The reorganization will not affect internal organization of the Marine Corps.

Procedure for the reorganization will be identical to that used in the 1962 reorganization of the Department of the Army. This refinement of the Navy is the result of a long study and, if Congress concurs, will become effective May 1, 1966.

Study Shows Selective Service Still Needed

DOD's draft study reveals the Selective Service System will be around for years to come, unless the world situation changes drastically.

Study staff work involved efforts of many federal agencies and was substantially completed last summer. Major findings are:

- No draft discontinuation in the coming decade unless changing world conditions permit regular force reductions substantially below proven necessary levels since the beginning of the Korean War;
- Increases in military compensation do not provide a viable alternative to the draft in meeting manpower needs;
- Existing deferment system is basically sound from the viewpoint of the national interest; and
- Maximum reliance should be placed upon volunteers with ways found to reduce reliance on the draft.

TOP REPORT—President Johnson (right) escorts Maj. Gen. Lewis W. Walt, CG, Third Marine Amphibious Force, RVN, from the White House where the General reported to the Chief Executive on progress of the war in South Vietnam. (UPI Telephoto)

Reorganize Army's Adj. General Office

The Adjutant General Office has been reorganized to provide a greater response to Army needs for TAGO's worldwide services in line with the current build-up.

Two TAGO divisions have been elevated to directorate status, making four directors reporting directly to The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Joe C. Lambert.

Other principal advisors with direct-reporting responsibility are the commanding general of the U.S. Army Data Support Command and TAGO comptroller.

Col. Maurice J. Halper, former TAGO Administrative Services Director, was named to fill a newly-created position of Assistant to The Adjutant General.

Coming under the range of control of his office is the U.S. Army Administration Center, a Class II activity and the largest under TAG's control.

The new organization was accomplished within current personnel ceilings.

Washington Memos

UPON SIGNING THE Veteran's Readjustment Act of 1966, President Johnson reaffirmed President Franklin D. Roosevelt's pledge of 22 years ago; "We are saying to the brave Americans who serve in uniform, in campus and bases, in villages and jungles, that your country is behind you; that we support you; that you serve us in time of danger."

THE NEW G.I. BILL was the first major measure enacted by this session of Congress and received the unanimous vote of both House and Senate. The bill includes educational benefits for veterans and personnel on active duty who have more than two years service.

AFTER TALKING WITH civilian and military officials President Johnson took into consideration all of the factors that should be weighed before signing the Veterans' Readjustment Act. "I am convinced," he said, "that these brave Americans who serve on many fronts today, particularly in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic, and others, are the very best men that our country has ever produced. They are great soldiers."

TRAINING UNDER WWII and Korean GI Bills was obtained by 116 members of the House of Representatives, 11 U.S. Senators, 12 state governors, three members of the President's Cabinet, one Justice of the Supreme Court, six astronauts and five of the President's special assistants in the White House.

ARMY'S NATICK LABORATORY has developed new underwear, hats, poncho and groundcloth for testing in RVN. Underwear are of absorbent cotton which will not bind or chafe in hot, humid weather. Three new soft brimmed hats resemble those of the Australian Army. The poncho and groundcloth are similar to ones now used, but weigh half as much.

MINUTEMAN FLAGS FOR 90 percent or higher participation in the U.S. Savings Bond payroll deduction program have been earned by 13 Army units now in RVN. They are 2nd Bn (AB), 320th Arty; 1st and 2nd Bns (AB), 327th Inf; 1st Bde, 101st AB Div; 2d Bn (AB), 502d Inf; 229th Assault Helicopter Bn; 1st Bn, 188th Inf; 1st Bn, 187th Inf; 6th Bn, 61st Arty; 3d Bn, 377th Arty; 765th Trans Bn (AM&S); 5th How Bn, 27th Arty; and 716th MP Bn.

REDESIGNING OF MILITARY petroleum transfer pump by Army's Engineer Research and Development Laboratories, Ft. Belvoir, Va., has increased performance and decreased weight of pump. Use of aluminum brought weight down to 1,100 pounds. For use on portable refueling stations, pump will furnish 500 gpm at 150-foot head.

A PROMISING TOOL for Army EOD teams is a system that can burrow underground locating dangerous unexploded artillery and mortar rounds. An inertial guidance system directs a self-propelled screw head up to 150 feet in any direction. A contact sensor locates the dud and automatically stops the burrowing action.

5TH MARDIV LANDED on Iwo Jima Feb. 19, 1945. In 36 days of bloody combat, 5th suffered more casualties than any other unit in single battle. More than 9,000 officers and men were wounded or killed in action. Fourteen Marines won the Medal of Honor and 93 received the Navy Cross. Other awards were 272 Silver Star and 700 Bronze Star Medals.

ACTIVATION OF 5TH MARDIV recalls the flag raising on Iwo Jima's Mt. Suribachi, one of the most celebrated pictures of WWII. Division's 28th Marines seized the crest and raised a flag to signal the objective was taken. The scene was re-created by AP photographer Joe Rosenthal. Only two of the six flag raisers in the picture are still living. They are former Cpl. Rene Gagnon, USMC, and former Hospital Corpsman John Bradley, USN. Three were killed in action on Iwo Jima. Ira Hayes died 10 years later.

"SWEAT CLOTHS" WILL be sent to RVN by Army's Natick Laboratory for combat testing. The 36-inch bandana may be worn on the back of the head as a sun shield, tied around the neck, or stuffed in a pocket for use as a handkerchief.

AIR FORCE'S SPECIAL Air Warfare Center is testing and evaluating an Airborne General Illumination Light Set (AGILS), consisting of several sets of high intensity, liquid cooled, reflector-mounted arc lamps, installed in remote controlled, rotatable pods of a Fairchild C-123 Provider assault transport aircraft. System can illuminate large area for several hours. It will be used for battlefield illumination, target detection and surveillance missions.

ENTERTAINER BOB HOPE will be presented a special USO Silver Anniversary award at annual National Council dinner in Washington, March 31. "Salute to Bob Hope" is expected to attract an overflow attendance of government, military and civilian figures. Hope has been described as the man who has carried the USO show's banner 14 times to servicemen in all parts of the world from WWII to Vietnam.

DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE is readying a short course in Vietnamese for field commands to use in basic conversational training. Course will cover 120 hours of instruction and will teach elementary proficiency in the South Vietnamese dialect with special attention to military terms.

ACADEMY OF GENERAL Dentistry has granted Maj. Gen. Joseph L. Bernier, Chief, Army Dental Corps, honorary membership. His selection will be announced at the Academy's 5th Annual Convocation, Chicago, Ill., March 26th.

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USMC Starts Forming Fifth Marine Division

The U.S. Marine Corps has started forming the Fifth Marine Division with activation of the 26th Marines and supporting elements March 1 at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Activation of the 27th and 28th Marines will follow in that order. The 5thMarDiv's artillery regiment will be designated the 13th Marines following historical precedent.

Full manning is expected within a year. Some Battalion Landing Teams (BLTs) will reach full operational readiness before the entire division is formed.

Division headquarters and major portions will be at Camp Pendleton. One BLT plus supporting aviation elements will be based at Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, Hawaii.

Army to Establish New Air Defense Bns.

Army will organize new air defense battalions to provide field commanders with low altitude air defense not available in forward battle areas.

The new battalions will be equipped with two weapons — the Chaparral guided missile mounted on a self-propelled vehicle and the M61A 20mm automatic gun, Vulcan.

Both the Hawk missile and the Nike Hercules now in use will continue to provide air defense in the field army area. When organized, the new battalions will compliment them and the hand-held Redeye missile now entering the inventory.

Each new battalion will have 755 men. They will be organized with a headquarters and headquarters company and four firing batteries, two with the Chaparral and two with Vulcan systems.

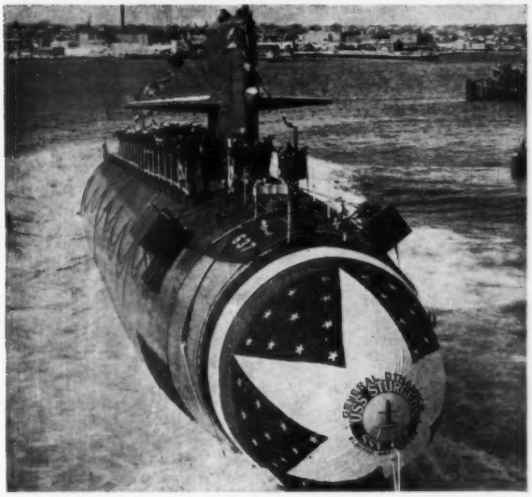
V/STOL Problems Explained

Full scale development of an operational vertical, or short take-off and landing (V/STOL) aircraft will be costly and time consuming with the military worth in relation to cost still questionable.

This was revealed by Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara in his "posture statement" to Senate committee members.

All V/STOL craft have experienced stability and control problems.

Propeller driven craft have also experienced static thrust deficiencies and vibration, noise and component reliability problems. This is particularly true in the power transmission systems, Secretary McNamara said, explaining it is clear a great deal of work still remains to be done.



FASTEST AND SAFEST—The nuclear attack submarine USS Sturgeon slides into the Thames River at Groton, Conn. The Navy termed its newest undersea killer "one of the fastest, safest and most modern submarines in the world."

Continued Emphasis Laid On 'Mission Safety-70'

President Johnson has placed continuing emphasis on Mission Safety-70 in observing the program's first anniversary Feb. 16.

He requested all agency heads to continue and intensify their efforts, emphasizing there can be no letup in safeguarding those who serve their country.

The President cited program highlights reported by the Secretary of Labor and said these examples demonstrate that resources and manpower waste can be reduced and must be attacked relentlessly.

President Johnson called for necessary leadership and the full measure of support so essential to success, saying "we must see that our Federal programs bear fruit and stimulate greater safety efforts throughout our Nation and in every community."

Award 2nd MoH for RVN Duty

President Johnson presented the widow of SSgt. Larry S. Pierce, USA, with the Medal of Honor Feb. 24.

SSgt. Pierce was awarded the medal posthumously for "indomitable courage, complete disregard for his own safety and profound concern for his fellow soldiers," in protecting the members of his squad from death or injury by throwing himself on an exploding mine to shield them.

It was the second award of the Medal of Honor for action in the Republic of Vietnam, the first awarded posthumously.

Allied Command Holding Exercise in Arctic Circle

Exercise Winter Express, first Allied Command Europe Mobile Force (AMF) exercise held within the Arctic Circle in winter, began Feb. 27.

Seventh in a series of AMF exercises and the first in which Canada has participated, Winter Express is taking place in the Bardufoss area of northern Norway. It will end March 26.

Norwegian forces are joined by ground forces from Italy, the United States, Britain and Canada for the exercise. Norwegian air units are supplemented by air units from the Netherlands, U.S. and Britain.

Dependency Exemptions Never Prorated for IRS

Deduction for dependency exemptions is not prorated because of birth or death of a dependent during the tax year, according to an Internal Revenue spokesman.

If a child is born alive at any time during the year, the full $600 exemption may be claimed. This is true even if the child lives only momentarily or was born on the last day of the year.

If a dependent dies at any time during the year and all dependency tests have been met, the full exemption is allowable even if the dependent died in January of that year.

AF FIGHTER — Capt. Richard G. Head, USAF, 27, an A-1E Skyraider pilot in RVN, checks his bomb load before takeoff. He has flown more than 325 combat missions, crash-landed once and taken part in two major battles. He holds the Silver Star and DFC for heroism.

GEEIA Unit in Korea

A Ground Electronics Engineering Installation Agency (GEEIA) unit has been based in Korea.

Detachment six, Pacific Region GEEIA, is with the 6146th Air Force Advisory Group, Headquarters, Republic of Korea Air Force, near Seoul.

The unit monitors modernization of aircraft control and warning sites under the U.S. Military Assistance Program. The radar network is an integral part of Korea's air force.

CG Seeks New Icebreaker Design

The U.S. Coast Guard has begun a study of polar icebreaker design, looking toward eventual replacement of its 23-year-old "Wind" class icebreakers operating in the Arctic and Antarctic.

The study will cover all advances in icebreaker design and propulsion. Propulsion systems will be studied to determine whether a system can be designed to improve on the diesel-electric system now used. Possibility of using nuclear energy will be considered.

Coast Guard has requested proposals from commercial firms for conducting an economic and engineering study to consider the practicality of using nuclear power.

AF Faces 1stSgt. Shortage

Air Force faces a shortage of first sergeants, AFSC 01090, unless greater cross-training is accomplished.

All input is through command on-the-job training. Latest report shows only one percent of the total worldwide authorization in a cross-training status.

Air Force has requested commanders to thoroughly screen noncommissioned officer resources for possible retraining to fill command vacancies.

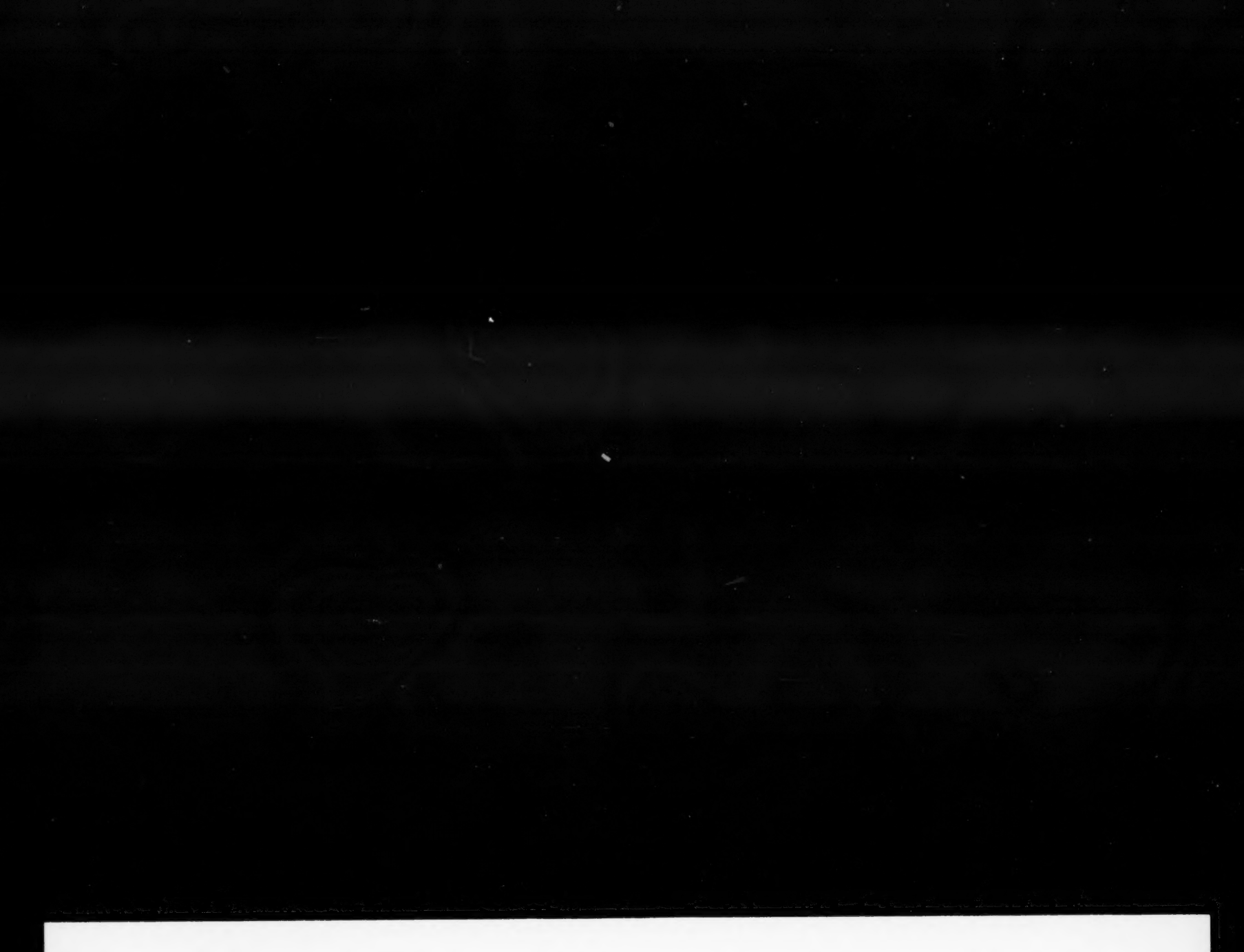
PERSONNEL ACTIONS

RAdm. Harry N. Wallin, CEC, USN, Director Navy Management Information Office to become Director of Facilities Engineering at Bureau of Yards and Docks. **Brig. Gen. Fred W. Collins, USA,** to transfer from USA Elm. NSA, Paris, France to Hq., USATC and Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., by April 15. **Brig. Gen. Frank D. Miller,** Asst. CoS Logistics, 8th U.S. Army, Korea, reassigned as U.S. Army Vietnam, Asst. CoS Logistics. **RAdm. Paul E. Hartmann, USN,** former Commander Fleet Air, Western Pacific, NAS Atsugi, Japan, transferred to Norfolk, Va., as Commander Carrier Division Twenty. **RAdm. Marshall W. White, USN,** former Commander Carrier Division Seven, replaces Admiral Hartmann.

CONTRACT AWARDS

Pepperell, Inc., New York, N. Y.: $1,020,178 fixed-price contact for 1,251,349 yards of olive drab cotton duck cloth. **(DSA)**

General Motors Corp., Detroit, Mich.: $2,355,005 fixed-price contract for diesel engines for the M548 vehicle. **(Army)**

Otis Elevator Co., Stamford, Conn.: $3,194,599 fixed-price contract for fire trainer units for the XM-35 Sheridan Weapon System. **(Navy)**

Boeing Co., Seattle, Wash.: $8,022,267 increment to an existing contract for modernization of Minuteman missiles. **(Air Force)**